

REMARKS

This Amendment and Response is submitted in response to the Restriction Requirement mailed 10 SEPTEMBER 2003. Applicant hereby elects Group I, claims 1-17, and 23, characterized by the Examiner as being drawn to a polishing ring with an annular recess. The election is made without traverse.

Claim Status

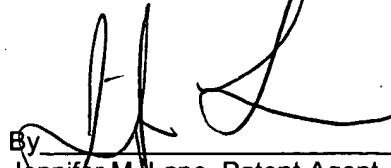
Claims 1-3, 5, 7-20, and 25-41 are pending after entry of the present amendment. Claims 4, 6 and 21-24 are cancelled herein. Claims 25-41 are added herein. Claims 1, 2, 3, 5, 7-11, 14, 15, and 18 are amended herein. Claims 1 and 15 are amended for technical clarity. Claim 2 is amended to recite proper antecedent basis from amended independent claim 1. Claims 5, 7, 8, and 10 are amended for proper claim dependency. Claim 9 is amended to place it in independent form. Claim 11 is amended to place it in independent form. Claim 14 is amended to correct a typographical error. Claim 18 is amended to depend from claim 1, and accordingly be drawn to the subject matter of Group I, as identified by the Examiner. A complete listing of all claims that are, or were in the application, along with an appropriate status identifier, is provided above in the section entitled "Amendments to the Claims". Markings are provided on claims amended in the present amendment.

Support for the above claim amendments can be found throughout the originally filed specification, drawings, and claims. For example, support for new claims 34-41 can be found at least on page 17 and in FIGS. 15A and 15B as well as in the remainder of the specification and drawings as filed.

CONCLUSION

If after review, the Examiner feels there are further unresolved issues, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at (415) 781-1989.

Respectfully submitted,
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